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# Hans Hess

Who Died

1733

And Some of His

Descendants

J. R. Hess



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A complimentary copy from,  
Hansel Hess

Hans Hess and his descendants have been largely Christian  
I am happy to say. I hope the coming generations will be more  
zealous to teach and spread and live the true Christian gospel  
than past generations have been.

Paul speaks in Phil. 3 of working on trying to attain and  
pressing toward the mark of the prize of the High calling of God  
in Christ Jesus. Having faith that you will go forth in the way  
pleasing to God. Forward with Christ.



I, John R. Hess, Sr., do hereby take in hand this 15th day of January, 1957, to write a record as I understand it to be if I make no mistakes. This is to be from Hans Hess who died in 1733 and was buried on what was his land east or northeast of Baumgardner Station in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

There is a record of person living early in the seventeenth century in Switzerland in the time of the Swiss Reformation. This man was Hans Jacob Hess. He was an Anabaptist preacher. In the years 1637 to 1639 he was arrested three times for his faith and was in jail ninety-four weeks, sixteen of them in chains. His wife also spent sixty-three weeks in prison. All his possessions amounting to about \$1600 worth were taken.

When in 1717 the Hans Herr group who had come to America in 1710 and taken up land from what is now West Willow to Strasburg sent back to Europe to invite others to come to America to the home and land they had found. A descendant of the before mentioned Hans Jacob Hess by the name of Hans Hess came with them with his wife Magdalena and family. According to records of landings ~~earlier than 1727~~, there should have been about six children living then.

Several persons ask about the date of the landing of Hans Hess and family at Philadelphia. It must have been in 1717. But I am told no records of landings were kept before 1727. So as far as I know there is no record of his landing. There were eleven children in all. They had 100 acres surveyed to them in Lampeter Township between the Conestoga River and the Mill Creek on May 27, 1718. Here they built a home and an altar to the Lord and cleared the land and farmed. Soon he moved to Conestoga Township which is now Pequea. Here, south of the western part of the tract held by the Hans Herr group he and his family had by 1739, November 26, 195 acres "in right No. one of patent." Here they raised a family of eleven children for God. Just north of Baumgardner's Station east of the old Quarryville Railroad. In the pasture on the Sunshine farm, known also as the John Rheinhart farm later George Herr farm. East of the railroad is a small valley, a spring of water and what looks like two cellars. A house and a barn I suppose. Here I believe Hans Hess first built on his claim of land.

Other claims were being taken up and being settled. He, after a lingering illness died in 1733. His body was buried on an elevated place on his own land. His grave was marked by a large field stone on which was cut the name of Hans Hess and the date 1733. His wife Magdalena died 1767 age 79 is buried beside him. Also buried here are his daughter Veronica Hess unmarried, born August 22, 1729, died October 17, 1814. A son Christian Hess unmarried, a son Samuel born April 9, 1731, died August 25, 1788. Samuel's wife Esther died 1802. Samuel's two sons Henrich Hess born October 25, 1768, died February 21, 1827. Henrich's wife Margaret born July 5, 1770, died September 29, 1821. Some other graves here—maybe 60 in all.



1. A son Jacob by name owned land in Warwick Township, Lancaster County, Pa. Got a patent for 200 acres September 24, 1735, near the present Hess Church. Here he built a home and a flax mill. There were five children.

2. John also of Warwick. One child.

3. Michael and wife Barbara.

4. Abraham and wife Catharine of Lampeter owned a large tract of land in West Donegal and operated the ferry at Marietta-Vinegars Ferry from 1730 to 1760. Three children Christian, Abram and Martin.

5. Christian, a bachelor. He purchased from his brother Abraham in 1755 and 1762 two hundred acres of land in West Donegal: after his death in 1794 the heirs sign a release and therefrom the names of his brothers and sisters are taken.

6. Veronica, unmarried, buried beside her father and mother.

7. Samuel, wife Esther lived and died on the old Hans Hess farm. They added more land till the farm contained 344 acres. There were two sons, Henry and Christian. The farm was divided to the two at the death of their father, Samuel. Henry built buildings south of Boehm's Church and later had the first house at Baumgardners. Henry's oldest son located near Conestoga Center.

8. Magdalena, wife of Jacob Stouffer. There were eleven children of his family scattered through Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster and York counties.

9. Anna, wife of Christian Miley. Four children.

10. Elizabeth married Michael Kryter. Three children.

11. Barbara was the second wife of Samuel Boyer. They owned and lived on what is now James Hess farm. Byerland.

Of the children of Hans Hess and wife the sixth child, a son, Michael by name, was born April 12, 1715, and crossed the ocean as a child. His wife is mentioned as Barbara. They settled on land south of New Danville known as the Jacob L. Hess farm; later Martin Hess; later Henry Hess, and the Hans Hess family.

This land has been continually owned by Hess people until very lately, when it has changed to Herr. There were 8 children to this family. The youngest, Michael by name, was a Brethren in Christ preacher and became owner of part of the original land which is yet owned by his descendants. These descendants built this Pequea Brethren in Christ church on part of the land and also a cemetery. They have been active in this church till now. From Michael down the bodies of their dead have been buried in their cemetery and have been duly marked. Of the later ones buried are Abram Hess, deacon; Conrad Hess, deacon, and Noah Z. Hess, preacher.

In a release which is recorded in Lancaster Courthouse the widow of the second Michael, she being executor of his will, names his children and also Michael's brothers and sisters and says they were children of the former Michael. These were named Abraham, John, David, Jacob, Christian, Samuel, Michael and Barbara.



The first Michael's son David became owner of considerable land in the southern part of Conestoga township which is now known as River Corner. About 1770, before the Revolutionary War, he had several farms there. He and his wife Ann Keppert raised ten children, four boys and six girls. The boys were Daniel, David, John and Michael, and the girls Barbara, Nancy, Elizabeth, Fronica, Maria, and Susanna. The father David died September 23, 1815, at age 69. Ann died in 1835 and is buried beside her husband in the David Hess cemetery on the Thomas farm. To David and Michael were sons of David <sup>the</sup> ~~were~~ willed the home plantation, David, 110 acres and Michael, 72, John, a farm, and Daniel had gotten his share before the father died. Barbara married John Derredinger; Nancy married Jacob Shoof. This was of the people known now as Shoff; Fred Shoff and Boots Shoff, and Martin Good's wife. Elizabeth married Michael Kreider. Fronica married Jacob Snevle. Maria married Fredrich Stauffer. Susanna married David Correll.

The second David Hess was born July 9, 1784, and died March 16, 1873. His first wife's name was Magdalene, maiden name Byres, born 1786. Second wife Lipp. The second David as said was willed the home farm. This is the Jacob Thomas farm, now Maynard Warfel's farm, Paul Harnish living on it. The David Hess graveyard is also on this farm. In this second David Hess's will the David Hess cemetery and a drive to it is given to the Hess descendants forever.

Deacon David Hess, brother to grandfather John Hess. David Hess was married to Mary Ann Huber from Willow Street. Their children: David Hess married to Kate Miller. Christian H. Hess married to Morrison. <sup>a daughter Mary Ann married David Harnish</sup> ~~Christ Harnish had a daughter Annie Harnish~~

David Hess son of Deacon David Hess, children; Abraham Hess married to Elizabeth Brenaman, daughter of Martin Brenaman, Manor. Maris Hess married to Lillie Brubaker, Rohrerstown.

Christian Hess, son of Deacon David Hess, one son Albert Hess. Albert Hess children Mary Hess and Maude Hess.

Abraham Hess and Elizabeth Brenaman Hess children: David Hess, Ruth Hess Brenaman and Rodah Hess Nolt.

Maris Hess and Lillie Brubaker Hess child: Helen Hess Mylin.

John Hess our grandfather first married Harriet Shenk, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Shenk. John Hess our grandfather became owner of his father-in-law's farm. The farm on which he lived and died. This farm is on the road from Conestoga Center to Marticville on the hill west of Sickman's Mill, on the corner. There were six children to the first marriage, born 1839, Martha, Married to John M. Hess; born 1842, David S., married Elvina Warfel; born 1844 Jacob S., married Susan Jones; born 1846, Sarah Ann, died 1846; Fannie married Michael Good; born 1851, John Henry, died 1851. Second wife Elizabeth Harnish, daughter of Jacob Harnish grandfather of Preacher Aaron Harnish. Children of second marriage: March 5, 1861, Benjamin H. Hess married Emma Rhienhart; September 13, 1862, Christian H. Hess married Barbara Funk; September 13, 1865, Henry H. Hess married Anna Huber; Elizabeth Hess married Henry Charles; Susan Hess married Martin Ressel.



David S. Hess, son of John Hess, wife Elvina Warfel Hess. She was a daughter of Henry Warfel and sister of Frank Warfel and Harry and Mynard Warfel. Ida Hess married Edward Hockey; Susan Hess married Benjamin Sangrey; John H. Hess married Eshleman; Harriet Hess married John Stoner; Elvina Hess unmarried; Barbara Hess unmarried, Conestoga Center; David Hess Jr. married Elia Irvin; Bertha Hess married Harry Aston.

Jacob Hess and Susan Jones children: Minnie Hess Good, Mrs. John R. Good.

Fannie Hess, Michael Good. Three children son, Frank; two daughters went West—lost.

Martha Hess first daughter of John Hess and Harriet Shenk was married to John M. Hess. Their children were: Harriet Hess married to Ed McSparren; Elizabeth Hess married to Elsworth Gregg, children, John Gregg and Laura Gregg Wilson; Laura Hess married to McComb. John McComb, son of Laura Hess McComb married Mary King McComb who died. There was one son John King McComb. Laura Hess McComb had a daughter who died young. She and her mother and father and John McComb Jr., first wife are buried at Chestnut Level. John McComb's second wife was Helen Ann Riach. John McComb is a minister. He is serving the Broadway Presbyterian church in New York. Other children of Martha Hess and John M. Hess were: John Hess, wife Rutter, miller on his father's home place; John Hess son of Martha and John M. Hess had three children: Frank Hess, Warren Hess and Pauline Hess Douster, East Petersburg; Dr. Giles Hess wife Long, doctor at Holtwood and Safe Harbor; Herbert Hess, mail carrier.

Jacob Thomas married to Maria Hess, sister to grandfather John Hess, children: Jacob Thomas, preacher at River Corner, New Danville and Byerland, wife Annie Brenaman; Abraham Thomas, wife Susie Harnish, daughter of John Harnish, preacher; David Thomas, unmarried; Martha Thomas Harnish husband George H.; Elizabeth Thomas, unmarried.

Preacher Jacob Thomas and Annie Brenaman Thomas, Annie Thomas husband John B. Harnish; Elmer Thomas wife Mary Herr; Abraham Thomas; Jacob Thomas wife Mary Neff, Millersville; Mary Thomas husband Martin Haverstick; Martin Thomas wife Harnish; Ida Thomas, unmarried.

Abraham Thomas and Susie Harnish Thomas, children: John Thomas wife Ella Brenaman; Christian Thomas wife Ada Murry; Henry Thomas; Ella Thomas husband Al Goss; Jacob Thomas wife Susie Martin; Amos Thomas wife Martha Myer; Katie Thomas husband Jacob Lefever; Susie Thomas husband Chester Dager; Elizabeth Thomas husband Clayton Harnish.

Annie Thomas Harnish and John B. Harnish, children: Jacob Harnish; Ida Harnish died as a child; Aaron Harnish; John Harnish.



Elmer Thomas and Mary Herr, children: Anna Thomas; Elizabeth Thomas husband Rev. Frank Enck; Chester Thomas wife Susan Harnish; Edna Thomas husband Park Hershey; Mary Thomas husband Bowman.

Jacob Thomas and Mary Neff Thomas, Clayton Thomas wife Verna Hess, two children adoption; Bishop David Thomas wife Edith Hess Thomas; John Thomas wife Florence Harnish Thomas; Jacob Thomas wife Frances Huber Thomas; Naomi Thomas husband Ebersole.

Family of Henry Huber wife Ann Hess, sister of grandfather John Hess. David Huber and wife Kate Good sister to Aaron Good; Abraham Huber and wife Elizabeth Rhienhart daughter of John Rhienhart; Jonas Huber, storekeeper at Marticville; Samuel Huber wife Stokes, 2 children; Sallie Huber married Rorher, Lampeter.

David Huber and Kate Good and children Laura Huber Herr, Amelia Huber Seiford, Mary Huber unmarried, Rawlinsville; Aaron Huber, Lancaster.

Christian Hess brother of grandfather John Hess, also known as Chester County Christ was married to Elizabeth Haverstick. Their children were: Aaron Hess, died May 4, 1864; Aldus Hess, died August 11, 1860; Elias Hess died July 8, 1863; David Hess died May 4, 1843; Elizabeth Hess died December 22, 1856; Infant son died. These children were buried in the David Hess cemetery in Conestoga Township, Lancaster County, Pa. Before their parents moved to Chester County in 1868. Other children of Christian and Elizabeth Hess. Elam Hess wife Elizabeth Warner; Amasiah Hess unmarried died 1935; Abraham disabled, unmarried; John Hess married Annie Hertzler; Louise Hess married, lived in York, died there; Ezra Hess married Stoner, buried at New London.

John Hess and Annie Hertzler, one child, Annie Hess Winey; John Winey Annie's husband is Deacon at Andrews Bridge Mennonite Church. They have four children, two boys, two girls.

Elam Hess, son of Christ Hess, Chester County. Elam and his wife died in the same winter 1887-1888. He died in November 1887, and his wife in January 1888. Their children Margaret Hess, daughter died November 1887; Lydia Hess Allison; Emanuel C. Hess died 1957; Cora Louise Hess Allison; J. Clyde Hess; I. D. Hess lives in York.

J. Clyde Hess and wife, children Chester N. Hess, Walter Hess age 18 died 1926; Nina Hess Durham, Ralph Hess, Keen's; Irma Hess Stoltzfus, Francis Hess, Westwood.

Irma Hess married to Christ Stoltzfus, children Rose Ann in training at the General Hospital, Lancaster; Karl and Kenneth twin boys Lancaster Mennonite School; Linda, 8 years old.

Emanuel C. Hess, son of Christian Hess, Chester County; Arthur S. Hess, Parkesburg, eight children; Beatrice Hess Gotchall, Pottstown; Naomi Hess Hess, Honey Brook; Charles J. A. Hess.



Ezra Hess, son of Christian Hess, Chester County, Christ wife Stoner from Quarryville, lived at the Mill and Farm known as the Bell Bank Mill in Colerain Township, Lancaster County. Then bought a mill and farm in lower Chester County, south of New London. Children Chester Hess, address Landenburg, Pa.; Mabel Hess, two boys; Evaline Hess, one boy.

Abraham Huber, son of Henry Huber and Elizabeth Rhienhart, children Harry Huber died at the age of 3; Barbara Huber husband Jacob H. Herr; John R. Huber wife Anna Aument; Barbara Huber Herr and Jacob H. Herr, children Landis Herr born December 25, 1901; George Herr born June 4, 1903; Elizabeth Herr born November 9, 1904; Abraham Herr born April 3, 1906; John Herr born August 31, 1907; Aaron Herr born March 15, 1909; Henry Herr born November 15, 1912; Edith Herr born March 22, 1914.

John R. Huber and Anna Aument, children Harold Huber died in a motorcycle accident; Esther Huber.

Family of Jonas Huber, storekeeper at Marticville. First wife Miller, Little Abe Miller's daughter. Second wife Hess, sister to Elmer Hess, daughter to first marriage, married to Adam Shank. Daughter to second marriage.

Abraham Hess son of second David, wife Hertzler, sister to preacher Ben Hertzler from Millersville. Children Amos, wife Meck, one son, John M. Hess of Millersville; Jonas and Henry, twin brothers; Jonas' wife was Emma Good, a daughter of John E. Good from Marticville; Annie Hess, Abe Hess, George Hess. Children of Jonas Hess and Emma Good Hess, Abraham, Christian, Henry, Annie, Mary, Amos, Benjamin, Clara, Bertha, Ida.

Martin Hess son of David Hess. Second marriage - half brother of grandfather John Hess. Martin Hess' wife was Mary Warfel Hess, sister of Eli Warfel.

Children Annie Hess Chambers born April 3, 1878—Mary, Mrs. Gideon Fisher, Kenneth Fisher, Lancaster; Mabel Fisher, Esther Fisher Leichty, Wayland, Iowa; Rachel Fisher, R. N.; John Fisher.

Edith Hess Dochtermann born 1830—Cora, Roy, Lloyd, dead; Sylvia.

John Hess, storekeeper at Safe Harbor—Bertha, Fred.

David Hess, wife Lydia Buckwalter, David died in 1926, Ruth Hess Shank, Missionary in Tanganyika, Africa; Rhoda Hess Lind, Missionary in Somaila, Africa; David M. Hess, Akron; John H. Hess, Missionary, Toronto Ont., Canada.

A survey of a section of land made on October 27, 1728, known as tract No. 2552 (Penn Archives), covering part of 2nd grant to Martin Kendrick and John Herr in 1717. In this survey farms are marked to Hans Hess, Jac Boehm, Jos Staman, Christ Stoner, Hans Line, Christ Brenaman, Sam Boyer, Jac Hoober, Jac Good and others. More can be found written of releases to heirs.



In the David Hess cemetery in Conestoga Township we find the graves of David Hess born June 19, 1746; died September 23, 1815, age 69 years, 3 months, 4 days.

Anna wife of David Hess born October 1751, died August 20, 1835, age 83 years, 10 months.

David Hess born July 9, 1784, died March 16, 1873, age 88 years, 8 months, 7 days.

Magadelene wife of David born 1786. Also a second wife of David Hess born 1800, died 1879.

John Hess, son of David Hess died 1823.

Daniel, son of David, died 1840.

Magadelene, wife of Daniel, died July 13, 1849.

Aaron Hess, son of Christian and Elizabeth Hess died May 4, 1864.

Aldus Hess died August 11, 1860.

Elias Hess, died July 8, 1863.

David Hess, died May 4, 1848.

Elizabeth Hess, daughter, died December 22, 1856.

Infant son.

All children of Chester County Christian Hess.

Also other children of the first David Hess and others. Maybe 60 graves.



There is also a cemetery of the John Hess farm, grandfather John Hess. Here buried are

Jacob Shenk, born December 23, 1785, died April 13, 1842.

Sarah Shenk, wife of Jacob and daughter of James Terrence McCardle, died December 28, 1863, age 72 years, 6 months, 11 days.

John Andrew Shenk, died November 12, 1854, age 19 years, 11 months, 12 days.

Rachel, daughter of Jacob and Sarah Shenk, died July 23, 1840, age 19 years, 5 months, 28 days.

John Henry Hess, son of John and Harriet Shenk Hess, died May 6, 1853, age 1 year, 11 months, 28 days.

Sarah Ann, daughter of John and Harriet Hess, died September 30, 1849, age 2 years, 11 months, 16 days.

Harriet, wife of John Hess, died May 5, 1854, age 37 years, 11 months, 29 days.

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MAY 75

N. MANCHESTER,  
INDIANA



